NASA Project Management Challenge 2009

PROJECT MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE 2009

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ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

Software Schedules: Nailing Jell-O to the Wall

Software schedules are notoriously inaccurate and volatile. Why aren't we doing a better job of estimating and tracking software schedules? We have been measuring, tracking, and reporting software development for years, and we still rate software as high risk for any program because of our lack of confidence in our schedules. We will look at the standard methods used to establish and track software schedules, discuss their strengths and weaknesses, and consider some different approaches and ways to evaluate status.

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Ms. Hopkins is currently with the GOES-R Ground Segment Project Systems Engineering group supporting science product generation and system verification and validation.

Prior to this position, Ms. Hopkins served as technical activities lead for the Ozone Monitoring Instrument Science Investigator-led Processing System. She managed the daily activities for integration of the science algorithms, development and maintenance of the data processing system, operations, and data distribution. She served as Science Data System Manager for the TIMED mission during the development phase, and has worked on a number of other software systems for remote sensing, trajectory analysis, and communications.

Ms. Hopkins teaches Software Engineering Management for Johns Hopkins University's Whiting School of Engineering.